



HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES FORCES KOREA

UNIT #15237
APO AP 96205-5237

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

24 JUL 2006

FKJA


MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Republic of Korea (ROK) Enforcement of Conscription Laws on Dual Citizenship of Certain US Military Members

1. Under the ROK Constitution and ROK Conscription Law, all male citizens of the ROK are obligated to serve in the ROK military. The conscription age under current law is 18 to 35. Until recently, this law had only been enforced domestically. However, the ROK government is now enforcing these laws upon US service members who either hold US-ROK dual citizenship or hold ROK citizenship with permanent resident status in the US. Those who were born in the US to ROK citizen parents have dual citizenship. If ROK citizenship is not renounced by age 18, such individual cannot renounce ROK citizenship until he either fulfills his ROK military obligation or obtains an exemption from the ROK government. Joining the US military does not constitute renouncement of ROK citizenship.
2. Based on the above, commanders should not send or otherwise permit such service members to travel to the ROK for any reason, unless that service member can show that he is exempted from conscription or his ROK citizenship has been affirmatively renounced and formally recognized by the ROK government prior to deployment to the ROK.
3. Questions regarding this issue should be addressed to the International Affairs Division, USFK/JA, attention Mr. Hyun S. Kim, DSN (315) 723-8707.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl


DAVID P. VALCOURT
Lieutenant General, USA
Chief of Staff

FKJA

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Certain US Military Members

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